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Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A ball bearing having a stationary race and a rotating race, wherein the bearing has surfaces which are concentric to the rotational axis and of which one is a part of the rotating bearing race and the other is a part of the fixed bearing race where during normal operation the surfaces are situated opposite one another with a relatively narrow gap therebetween and such that in the event of failure the concentric surfaces function as emergency bearing surfaces.

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2. (Previously Presented) The bearing in accordance with claim 1, wherein the concentric surfaces also extend axially.
3. (Previously Presented) The bearing in accordance with claim 1, wherein the concentric surfaces have, when viewing the cross section, the shape of a step.
4. (Previously Presented) The bearing in accordance with claim 1, wherein the concentric surfaces extend obliquely with respect to the rotational axis of the bearing.
5. (Previously Presented) The bearing in accordance with claim 1, wherein at least one of the concentric surface is mounted on a radial projection and simultaneously functions as a bearing cover.
6. (Previously Presented) The bearing in accordance with claim 1, wherein the gap between the concentric emergency bearing surfaces is less than 0.1 mm.

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7. (Previously Presented) The bearing in accordance with claim 1, wherein material for the concentric emergency bearing surfaces is so selected that the drive of the rotating system cannot overcome the friction produced during an emergency rundown so that it switches to failure.

8. (Previously Presented) The bearing in accordance with claim 1, wherein the material used for the emergency bearing surfaces is steel.

9. (Previously Presented) The bearing in accordance with claim 1, wherein at least one of the two emergency bearing surfaces is coated.

10. (Previously Presented) A drag vacuum pump with a stator and a rotor which is supported by a rolling bearing in accordance with claim 1.

11. (Previously Presented) The drag vacuum pump in accordance with claim 10, further including:
a purge gas facility.

12. (Previously Presented) The bearing in accordance with claim 6, wherein the gap is less than 0.05 mm.

13. (Previously Presented) The bearing in accordance with claim 8, wherein the concentric emergency bearing surfaces are hardened roller bearing steel.

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14. (Previously Presented) A ball or roller bearing comprising:
an inner annular race;
an outer annular race;
balls or rollers mounted in a rolling relationship between the inner and
5 outer annular races;
a first annular projection extending radially from a first edge of one of
the races toward the other;
10 emergency bearing surfaces defined on a radially outer face of the
projection and the other bearing race, the emergency bearing surfaces facing each
other across a gap.

15. (Previously Presented) The bearing in accordance with
claim 14 further including:
a second annular projection extending radially from a first edge of the
other race toward the first annular projection, the emergency bearing surfaces being
5 defined on the first and second projections.

16. (Previously Presented) The bearing in accordance with
claim 14 further including:
a bearing cover disposed between second edges of the inner and outer
races.

17. (New) A bearing used in a drag vacuum pump, the bearing
ball bearing having a stationary race and a rotating race, wherein the bearing has
surfaces which are concentric to the rotational axis and of which one is a part of the
rotating bearing race and the other is a part of the fixed bearing race where during
normal operation the surfaces are situated opposite one another with a relatively
narrow gap therebetween and such that in the event of failure the concentric surfaces
function as emergency bearing surfaces.